

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-17 were pending. Claim 8 is amended herewith to correct a typographical error. Claim 13 also is amended herewith. Support the amendment is found throughout the specification at, *inter alia*, page 14. Thus, it is believed that no new matter has been added.

Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. § 121

The Office has requested a restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121: Group I (claims 1-7 and 12-14), drawn to a method comprising applying a furin inhibitor to a site of a wound or a fibrotic disorder or fibrosis may occur; or Group II (claims 8-11 and 15-17), drawn to a method of inhibiting the generation of TGF-beta 1 applying a furin inhibitor. Applicants hereby elect Group I without traverse.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that a typographical error in claim 8 resulted in claims 8-11 being included in Group II rather than Group I. Applicants have corrected this error (*i.e.*, changing the pendency of claim 8 from claim 15 to claim 1) and now respectfully request that claims 8-11 be included in Group I to be examined.

The Examiner has requested an election of a species of furin inhibitors. Applicants hereby elect the species, decanoyl-RVKR-cmk with traverse. The claims reading on the elected species include claims 1-5 and 8-14.

Applicants respectfully submit that the examination of the genus of furin inhibitors as claimed fails to create an unreasonable burden on the examiner and thus should be examined as a genus. While the representative furin inhibitors disclosed in the specification are chemically distinct, the invention lies in the method using the inhibitors rather than the inhibitors *per se*. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this species election.

The Examiner further requests an election of a species of fibrotic disorders recited in claim 13. Applicants hereby elect the fibrotic disorder, pulmonary fibrosis with traverse. The claims reading on the elected species are claims 1-14.

Applicants respectfully submit that the examination of the genus of fibrotic disorders as claimed fails to create an unreasonable burden on the examiner and thus should be examined as a genus. While the representative fibrotic disorders disclosed in the specification differ in patient population and disease condition, the invention lies in the method using furin inhibitors to treat fibrotic diseases rather than the treatment of any one disease *per se*. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this species election.

Applicant expressly reserves the right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 255352001800. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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